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PATENT

Docket No. 15-18-2000-2900  
TECH CENTER 1800/2900

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 24, 2001.

*Garee A. Haney*  
Garee A. Haney

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In the application of:

Lee A. BULLA JR. and Mehmet  
CANDAS

Serial No.: 09/696,929

Filing Date: October 25, 2000

For: MICROBE, MICROBIAL  
EXOPOLYSACCHARIDE AND USES  
THEREOF

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 1616

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the documents are also submitted herewith. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

The documents Nos. 1, 4 and 6-8 listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were cited in a Search Report (copy attached) directed to a counterpart international or foreign application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☒ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
  - ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of \* is enclosed.
  - ☐ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
  - ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided below; accordingly, no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, a Petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement, an authorization to charge our deposit account, and a Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) are provided herein.

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO-1449, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 is to the best of my knowledge and is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

In the unlikely event that the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 524182000400. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Dated: September 24, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By: Kate H. Murashige  
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